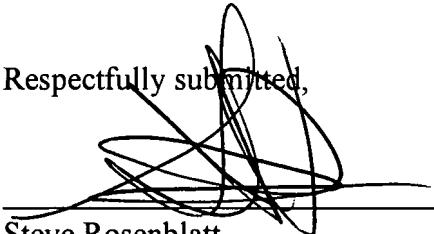


In view of the foregoing, allowance of the claims in the case is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to discuss this matter with Applicants' attorneys should any questions arise.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 14, 1997


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Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper, along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being forwarded to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, via the United States Postal Service, First Class mail, Postage Prepaid, on this the 1st day of NOV, 1997.